Call to Order
Vice Chair Ruth Grendahl called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. and reported that a quorum was present.

Major Topic Discussion: Metropolitan Planning

Trustee Dan McElroy stated that Metropolitan Area Planning has been an on-going discussion since 2007 with a report on the need for increased capacity in a growing metropolitan area. Trustee McElroy stated that the population is anticipated to grow along with an increased demand for baccalaureate and master’s degrees.

Trustee McElroy asked what can be accomplished to provide access and control costs that will not take undue risks in terms of investment or potential stranded capital. Trustee McElroy recommended that the Board adopt a framework for building the system’s capacity to contribute to the vitality of the Twin cities. Trustee McElroy noted that no action is required and this is for discussion purposes, which can be added to the 2020 Plan. He introduced Senior Vice Chancellor Linda Baer to lead the discussion.

Senior Vice Chancellor Baer introduced the framework recommendations that were provided at the meeting. Senior Vice Chancellor Baer continued that possible principles of an effective framework should meet the following criteria: flexibility, geographic coverage, cost effectiveness, competitive, system advantage and perspective, and right sizing.

Trustee Van Houten remarked on the issue of cost effectiveness and duplication of programs. Senior Vice Chancellor Baer stated that there is a considerable demand for certain programs; therefore, it relates to meeting the needs of the full Metropolitan area with a coordinated plan for programming based on capacity with Metropolitan State University.

Trustee Clarence Hightower stated that there is a regional need for greater programmatic services and access which could be provided by the other institutions. Senior Vice Chancellor stated that coordinating and meeting the needs in the various areas are based on capacity and serving populations where most needed.

Chancellor McCormick noted that more community and technical colleges are becoming four-year institutions. Chancellor McCormick continued that the system two-year institutions will not become four-year institutions but will work with the four-year institutions to meet the regional needs.
Chancellor McCormick remarked on the great need for more capacity at Metropolitan State University.

Trustee McElroy stated that State Demographer Dr. Tom Gillaspy will make a presentation to the Board at their retreat in October. The State Demographer’s Web site contains a map of projections by the year 2030. Trustee McElroy proposed that “innovative” be an additional characteristic added to the framework. Trustee Thiss inquired about the definition of capacity and the other components. Chancellor McCormick responded that as the population changes, many more Minnesotans will require higher education given the new technologies in the coming years.

Trustee Benson stated that the definition of capacity may not be completely clear, but that it is a measurement of the demand and supply. Trustee McElroy spoke of what the competition is doing to make sure young people in the state acquire an education noting that the competitor is the surrounding regions in need of jobs. Vice Chair Grendahl stated that innovation should then be added as an ideal characteristic.

Senior Vice Chancellor Baer continued to review the considerations for the framework. Trustee Hightower inquired about the residential facilities for Metropolitan State. Senior Vice Chancellor Baer responded that the consideration for Metropolitan State expansion should be added to the Facilities strategy plan. Trustee Van Houten observed that Metropolitan State is a perfect partner for the two-year institutions but that there may be issues with faculty unions by integrating the two unions.

Vice Chair Grendahl questioned President Danahar about the out-of-state residents who come into the metropolitan area for their education. President Danahar responded that it may have been an issue in the past, but is no longer a problem with the Metro Alliance. He added that the presidents are supportive in their work.

Senior Vice Chancellor Baer continued with the principles of the plan. President Sue Hammersmith addressed the Board stating that an institution must continue to grow and meet the needs adding that it simplifies issues if the focus remains on the students and the public. President Hammersmith stated that Metropolitan State University has a responsibility for faculty, facilities and expanding capacity with partnerships with the two-year institutions to deliver a powerful education engine.

Trustee Dickson noted that the focus should be placed on the consumer and all else will follow. Trustee Jacob Englund questioned what is prohibiting students from enrolling in on-line courses. Senior Vice Chancellor Baer responded stating the importance of informing the consumer of on-line course availability and following with student support and satisfaction.

Trustee Hightower noted the importance to move forward with further discussion as it relates to possible implications for the capital budget request. Vice Chair Grendahl stated that suggestions to the recommendations and other issues will be added to the discussion at the Board of Trustees Retreat in October.
Vice Chair Grendahl concluded the discussion noting that Chair David Olson would be briefed as he was unavailable to participate in the meeting.

3. **Adjournment**
   Vice Chair Grendahl adjourned the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

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Ingeborg K. Chapin
Secretary to the Board